

SEVENTY-THIRD CONFERENCE

LARGE CROWDS ATTEND SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT SALT LAKE.

President Smith Expresses Satisfaction at Large Attendance and Gratitude to Almighty for Prosperity That Has Attended the People During the Past Session.

The seventy-third semi-annual conference of the Latter-day Saints opened Saturday forenoon, October 4th, in the Tabernacle, with an attendance that completely filled the edifice. Promptly at 10 o'clock President Joseph F. Smith arose and bade the congregation open the conference with the singing of the hymn, "Our God, We Praise Thee." Invocation was offered by Stake President Ilggs, of Nephi, and, after the mammoth congregation had sung "Redeemer of Israel," President Smith, the first speaker, stepped to the pulpit and addressed the assembly briefly. President Smith expressed satisfaction at the unusually large attendance, and spoke his gratitude to the Almighty for the prosperity that has attended the people during the past session.

During the morning session President Ben E. Rich, of the Middle States mission, denounced in severe terms the eastern press, which has set up the cry of "blood atonement" in connection with the cold-blooded murder of which Hooper Young is accused.

"What damnable lies they tell," said President Rich. "They will die and go to hell and be damned forever. And they will remain in hell forever unless some Mormon elder goes down and helps them out."

President Rich said the press in New York, where Hooper Young is in custody, had been trying to bring home to the Mormon church the responsibility of the crime of which the young man is accused. Regarding blood atonement, Mr. Rich said the church authorities, in 1889, declared openly that the shedding of blood was abhorrent to them, and denied that enemies of the faith had ever been ordered killed. He said the Mormon people believe in blood atonement only to the extent demanded by the laws of the country.

President Joseph Robinson, of the California mission, in a short talk before the conference, reported that the California mission is prospering, and that the membership is now fully 600, despite the fact that the elders who are at work in that field have met much vigorous opposition during the past six months.

President E. H. Nye, of the Southern States mission, followed with a short address on conditions throughout the South. He said there are about a hundred elders operating throughout the Southern States, mostly among the rural and backwoods districts.

President McLaie, of the Colorado mission, was the next speaker, and he told of the work being done in his districts, giving a most encouraging report of the success of the mission.

Apostle Hyrum Smith made the closing address of the morning session, dealing with those who are defaming the church. Apostle Smith said the spirit that is being manifested by some is the same that caused the murder of Joseph Smith, whose blood is still crying for vengeance. He deplored the fact that people, among them ministers, go east and deliberately lie about the Mormon people.

At the afternoon session President Duffin of the Southern States mission said that mob violence in that district is dying out, and that people in the southwest are becoming favorable to missionaries.

President Woodruff, of the mission of the Northwest, said that there were many converts being made constantly throughout his mission.

President Nephi Pratt, of the Northwest mission, also spoke of the flattering state of affairs in his field of labor.

Apostle John Henry Smith said he had visited Hancock county, Illinois, during the past year, and found that all the hard feeling that once existed against the Mormon people has died out. "I found that the place is Jack-Mormon rather than Anti-Mormon," said Apostle Smith. "There seems to be a belief that the Mormon people could return to that country and build up the towns that have wasted since they were driven out by persecution."

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

Apostle Reed Smoot, the first speaker at the morning session called the Saints to task for their failure to pay their fast offerings. In many of the stakes of Zion, he said, there are no poor, and here the people have been led to think that they are no longer required to pay their fast offerings. This, the speaker said, was not true.

A Boxer Goddess.

Advices have been received from China of the increase of Boxerism both in Sze Chuen and Chi Li. In Sze Chuen the Boxers, some 10,000 in number, attacked Cheng Tu, the provincial capital, and there were some sanguinary fights in the streets. The Boxers were held in check by the imperial forces, and on a report being proclaimed that reinforcements were coming for the garrison, the Boxers fled from Cheng Tu and encamped at Shippantan, where earth-works had been thrown up.

as there are many poor in some of the larger stakes, and the means received from these offerings is distributed where it is most needed. He added that if the payment of fast offerings was observed by all the Saints, there would be no poor in Zion.

A report of work being done by the Saints in Mexico was given by Anthony W. Ivins, president of the stake; of the Sandwich Islands mission by Samuel E. Woolley, who labored there for seven years; of the Canadian mission by President Allen of the Alberta stake, and of the Wasatch stake by President William H. Smart.

Apostle Abraham O. Woodruff, speaking of labor unions, said: "We do not show the interest in each other in these temporal affairs that we should. We have not as much interest in obtaining employment for each other as the labor unions have in obtaining employment for their members, and I am in favor of either joining the unions or being a union among ourselves, for the Latter-day Saints are in a position to demand some consideration in these things."

Elder Louis A. Kelsch, who has spent the past year laboring in the Japanese mission, told of the experiences of missionaries in that field. He said but two converts had been made, although more could have been baptized had the missionaries been sure that those seeking to accept the faith understood it thoroughly.

At the afternoon session Apostle Rudger Clawson, the first speaker, urged upon the congregation the importance of paying their tithing.

The next speakers were President William T. Jack, of the Cassia stake and Samuel Hennen, president of the Uintah stake, who told briefly of the work throughout their respective stakes.

Apostle Mathias Cowley appealed to the people to settle their difficulties by conveying them to the presidents of their respective stakes and not by appealing them to the president of the church or the apostles in every little difficulty that arises. He said the priesthood should be honored and that difficulties should be settled through them.

An overflow meeting was held in the Assembly Hall, which was presided over by Apostle Woodruff.

The most practical address of the afternoon was by Apostle Reed Smoot, when he advised the members of the church to save money and keep out of debt, and admonished them to cease shipping wheat from the state.

Other speakers were President Moses Taylor of Summit stake, one of the youngest stake presidents at the conference; President James W. Paxman, of Juab stake; President Joseph Merrill of Cache, President George C. Parkinson of Onida, Elder George J. Cannon and Apostle Woodruff.

THIRD DAY'S SESSION.

Earnest exhortations to the Saints to faithfully pay their tithing, studiously avoid getting into debt, abhor mortgages and be steadfast in the principles of their religion characterized the addresses of the closing day of the conference.

The Saints were warned that the coming of Christ was near at hand, and that they should be diligent in the performance of their duties that all prophecies might be fulfilled and they might be ready to enter into the kingdom of heaven when the time came.

They were exhorted to send their children to school and give them every advantage of an education that it might not be said against the Saints that they were an ignorant people. The charge that the church relied upon the ignorance of its people for the maintenance of its power over them was strongly refuted, and the further charge that the authorities of the church were allied against the non-Mormon educational institutions was denied with equal strength. The young were advised to attend these schools if they could not attend a church institution, but the establishment of religious classes where the young people could be taught the principles of Mormonism was advocated.

The Saints were taken to task for some of their shortcomings and urged to remedy these things. Testimonies to the power of the gospel were made by every speaker, and instances were related where it was claimed the power of healing by blessing and laying on of hands had been proved by actual demonstrations.

The speakers at the morning session were Apostle M. W. Merrill, David E. Udall, president of the St. John's stake in Arizona; Jesse Crosby, president of the new B. Horn stake; S. L. Chipman, president of the Alpine stake, Utah; Jones, president of the Parowan stake, and President C. D. White, of the Beaver stake.

At the closing session, in accordance with the usual custom, the general authorities of the church were presented and sustained unanimously by the Saints. Joseph F. Smith as prophet, seer and revelator of the church in all the world, and other officers in their respective capacities.

The Boxers of Sze Chuen are led by a woman, Liao Kuan Yin, who is alleged to be one of the three sisters who were arrested at Tien Tsin during the rebellion of 1900, it being said that they were "the Boxer goddesses." Letters from Prince Tuan, Yung Lu and other Boxer leaders were found in their house. This woman, who is described as being handsome by Chinese papers, has attracted 10,000 Boxers to her standard. The Chung King correspondent of the North China News says: "She is the most powerful rebel chief in Sze Chuen."

NORTHWEST NOTES.

The first snow of the season fell at Denver on October 1st.

The benefit held in Butte last week for the striking miners of Pennsylvania netted in the neighborhood of \$3,000.

A Chinaman who had leased the Salmon creek placers, near Baker City, Ore., found a gold nugget last week worth \$17,000.

Two trains collided on a curve between Columbus and Park City, Mont., two men being killed and the engine and mail cars wrecked.

Patrick Kelly of Helena, aged 63 years, fell dead in the hallway of the first floor at the Fliesen hotel at Butte on Friday as a result of heart failure.

An eighteen-year-old boy who was cut in two by a Union Pacific train six miles east of Cheyenne has been identified as Albert Trudeau of Sioux City, Iowa.

Henry Breitenstein, editor of the Labor News and Socialist candidate for governor, has left Wyoming, and the Socialists will have to find another candidate.

Thomas McCormick, a rancher living near Laurel, Mont., was thrown from his horse and dragged a considerable distance, receiving injuries which may prove fatal.

While Charles Booth, aged 8, was playing on the railroad tracks at Great Falls, Montana, he was struck by a switch engine and instantly killed, being badly mangled.

A man entered a saloon at a railroad camp near Farlin, Nevada, and ordered the proprietor to throw up his hands. Instead, the proprietor whipped out a revolver and shot the would-be hold-up, killing him instantly.

John W. Burns, labor party candidate for sheriff and for thirteen years a miner in the Rocky Fork mines, was killed at Deer Lodge, Mont., by falling from a ledge of rock to the floor of the room, a distance of eight feet.

The ordinance recently passed by the Cheyenne council making gambling a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment was last week enforced for the first time when three proprietors of gambling houses were fined \$100 each.

The coroner's jury that investigated the Union Pacific wreck that occurred at Rawlins, Wyo., in which four men lost their lives, returned a verdict that the wreck was due to gross carelessness on the part of the railroad. The wreck was caused by the failure of the air brakes of a freight train to work.

Hop-picking in Washington is now practically over. Hop-growers are disappointed over the yield, which is one-fifth below what was expected. Dry weather prevented the hops from maturing. Oregon crops are just reversed and will reach 80,000 to 90,000 bales, as compared with 70,000 last year.

A resolution has been introduced in the Portland city council allowing gambling houses, slot machines and disorderly houses to run under police regulations. It is claimed that the revenue which the city will derive from these various sources if the resolution is passed will be in excess of \$15,000 per month.

A riot occurred at Fenslon, Nevada, one day last week, as a result of which J. E. Sullivan sustained a serious gunshot wound. The riot occurred between about thirty Greeks and Sullivan, who is a sub-contractor. The trouble arose over a misunderstanding about wages. The Greeks attacked Sullivan, and in the melee he was shot.

Boyd Kirk, an engineer at the electric light house at Rawlins, Wyo., was instantly killed by an electric shock. No one was in the room with him at the time of the accident, and it is not known just how it happened. It is thought that Kirk, in making the switch, had taken hold of the rods with both hands and received the full force of 2,300 volts through his body.

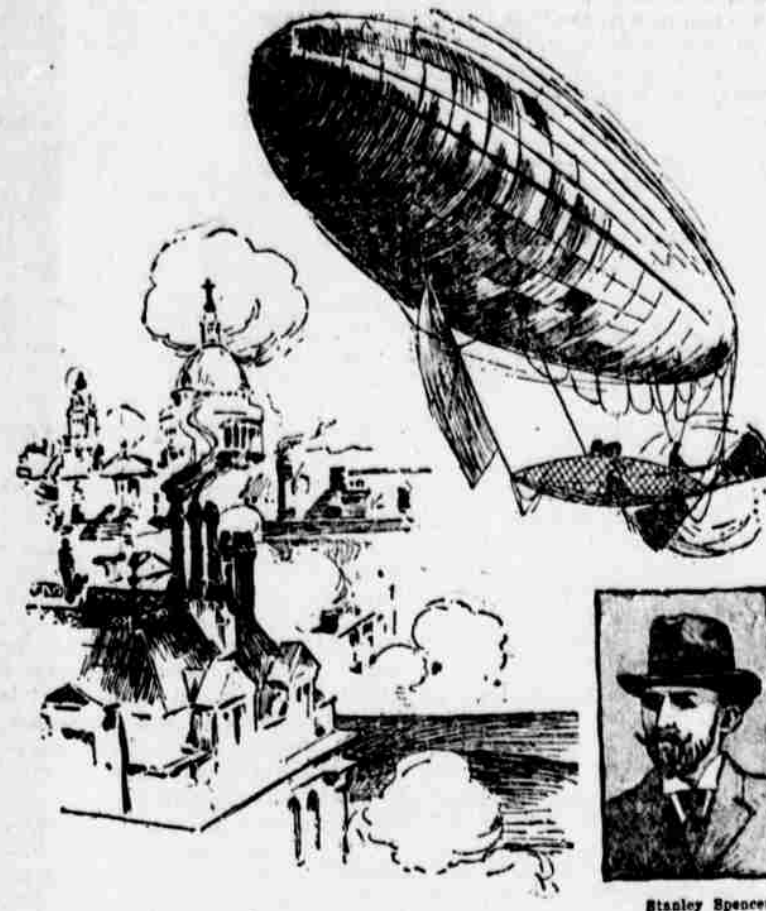
The Colorado & Southern has commenced the strengthening of the bridges of its Wyoming division preparatory to the hauling of heavier shipments of ore from the mines at Sunrise to the works of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company at Pueblo. At present about 350 tons a day are hauled, but after November 1st the output is to be increased to 2,000 tons a day.

A family of Poles living at Great Falls, Montana, lost \$600 in a peculiar manner. The family, whose name is Kosvuti, had been using a straw tick for banking purposes, and in it had \$600 in currency and \$60 in gold. Through some oversight the tick was taken out into the yard with some other rubbish and a bonfire was made of it before it was remembered that it was also a bank.

John Hunt, a negro, last week pleaded guilty to stealing \$1.40 cents from the room of Ed Schwarz, during the Frontier celebration at Cheyenne, and was sentenced to eighteen months in the penitentiary. An accessory, George Pash, turned state's evidence and was released.

Mrs. August Anderson, 28 years of age, committed suicide at Leadville, Colo., by plunging head forward through an open seat in an out-house, striking on her head, causing instant death. Mrs. Anderson has been ailing for some time and her mind was undoubtedly deranged.

STEERS AIRSHIP OVER LONDON AND SUBURBS



SPENCER'S AIRSHIP, IN WHICH HE SAILED OVER LONDON.

Stanley Spencer of London has proved that he could steer his airship successfully at will, sail in any direction he liked, and make fairly good time against the wind. Mr. Spencer is a veteran aeronaut and built his airship after his own design. Recently he started from the Crystal Palace, sailed over St. Paul's, went as far west as Ealing, circled above that suburb, sailed northwest against the wind and landed at Eastcote, near Harrow, at 6 o'clock. The trip of thirty miles was made without a hitch in an hour and forty-five minutes. Percival Spencer, referring to his brother's trip through the air, said it exceeded the longest trip of Santos-Dumont, the Brazilian aeronaut, by nearly twenty miles.

Spencer's airship has a blunt tail and nose, differing in that respect from the design of Santos-Dumont's balloon. The general lines are those of a bottle-nosed whale. The bag is seventy-five feet long and contains 20,000 cubic feet of gas. The frame is of bamboo. Unlike Santos-Dumont's machine, Spencer's airship is propelled in front. A simple pressure of a button sets the airship going and stops it. It is worked by a motor of three horse power, placed at a safe distance from the gas valve, danger of explosion being thereby minimized.

KING HUMBERT'S MONUMENT



Occupying a conspicuous position on Mount Superba, near Turin, there has just been erected, in honor of the late King Humbert of Italy, a monument which is described by those who have seen it as one of the most impressive works of art of its kind that has ever been constructed.

The monument is the work of Signor Pozzi. At the foot of the monument is the figure of a warrior and at the top has been sculptured a wounded eagle. The tall column is of marble and may be seen for a great distance.

It is said that Queen Margherita, the widow of King Humbert, is especially pleased with this work, considering it the most striking memorial of her late husband which has yet been erected in Italy.

Toadying to Grand Duke.

On leaving New York Grand Duke Boris did not board the steamer at the dock, like the other passengers, but from Cornelius Vanderbilt's steam yacht Cherokee, which brought the grand duke from Newport and which waited for the Lorraine at quarantine. The grand duke enjoyed another distinction. On account of his high rank his name headed the list of passengers. The members of his suite came next and then the other passengers followed in alphabetical order.

Woman Coal Operator.

Perhaps the only woman coal operator in the country is Mrs. Jane Salkie of Clinton, Md., who is both superintendent and manager of a big mine. She holds a certificate of membership in the National Coal Operators' association and knows the mining industry and the coal market as well as any operator in Indiana. One hundred and fifty men are on her payroll. She has an office in her residence and attends to every detail of the business, including the correspondence, pay rolls and the shipping of every ton of coal.

Energetic American Sailor.

Capt. Reiter of the battleship Wisconsin was in Puget Sound when he received orders to start for Panama. The sound was thick with smoke, but Capt. Reiter plunged through it, speeded to San Francisco, entered the harbor through a thick fog, without a pilot, and in twenty-four hours was ready to sail. As he put to sea he fouled the troopship Meade, and for a time it looked as though the battleship would crush the transport, but no serious injury resulted, and in a short time the Wisconsin was thrashing southward.

FINEST WARSHIPS EVER BUILT.

Louisiana and Connecticut to Be Real Terrors of the Sea.

It is the opinion of competent judges that in the newly designed ships the Louisiana and the Connecticut the United States will have two of the greatest warships ever built. Together with the British ships—the Edward VII., the Commonwealth and the Dominion—they will comprise the five largest warships in the world. The Oregon and its sister ships had batteries of four thirteen-inch and eight eight-inch guns, but the Connecticut and Louisiana will mount a battery which is so heavy as to place these vessels practically in a class by themselves. Each carries four twelve-inch, eight eight-inch, twelve seven-inch and twenty three-inch guns. The next most powerfully armed vessel is probably the Edward VII. She also carries four twelve-inch, but instead of the eight eight-inch she is armed with four 9.2-inch guns. This, of course, is a much more powerful weapon than the eight eight-inch, that is to say, will be so much greater that there will be far more likelihood of getting in an effective blow.

It is the broadside battery of twelve seven-inch guns, however, that is believed to render the Connecticut so much more powerful than the Edward VII., which carries only ten six-inch against the greater number of seven-inch. An increase of an inch in caliber, when you get to the size of a six-inch, means a great increase in power. Furthermore, the Connecticut will carry twenty of the three-inch guns as against ten or twelve of the same caliber carried by the latest British battleship.

ORIGIN OF A FAMOUS SONG.

How World-Famous Tune Came to Be Written.

Bizet, the composer of the world-famous opera "Carmen," and Halévy, his librettist, once occupied apartments whose outer doors opened on the same landing. As soon as he had finished an air Bizet would hasten to submit it to his neighbor, who subjected it to the most severe criticism. From morning to night the piano resounded in the composer's apartments. One night Bizet finished a dramatic bit in which he flattered himself he had successfully sketched the pride of a triumphant toreador after a successful bull fight. But Halévy listened in silence and showed but a moderate enthusiasm. Bizet, somewhat piqued, asked the cause of this coldness.

"It's good, I admit," said Halévy. "In fact, it's too good. It lacks movement—it lacks snap—in short, it's not popular enough."

"Not popular!" shouted the piqued composer. "Do you want me to write for the slugs?" He went out in a huff, but soon relented, and in an hour returned with another air. "Listen to this," said he; "here is my toreador idea written down to your popular level." It was, indeed, the song of the toreador, and the only one which on the first night received an encore and seemed to move the first-night audience from its torpor.

In the Dining Car.

With a complacent smile she dragged her small son into a seat in the dining car and made a ferocious grab for the engraved bill of fare. Her clothes and her manner suggested rural districts, but the arrogant gaze that she leveled at the inoffensive bill of fare was intended to denote high breeding. Then the black waiter bent obsequiously over her shoulder. "Bring us two helpings of chicken," she ordered.

The black man took up the bill of fare, and, with furrowed brow, read over each word. "Sorry, ma'am," he replied at last, "but we ain't got chicken that way. We has 'em fried and roasted, and I guess the cook might broil 'em, and—"

"No, no. No!" cried the woman. "I mean plates of chicken—prepared any way you have it."

"Oh!" bowed the waiter, "you mean pohtions."—New York Press.

A David Harum Trade.

There is a citizen in New York who decided to treat himself to a horse and runabout. In every case he insisted upon knowing the attitude of the prospective purchase in relation to automobiles. "I don't want my neck broken daily," he would say.

There was a horse that suited him. "I can warrant him on the automobile question," said the Jersey farmer who owned him. "I will guarantee that he will pass a dozen an hour all day long and never look at one of them."

"Will you give me a written statement to that effect?"

"I will."

"The sale was made. For once a Jersey man had told the truth in a horse trade. The horse was blind."